

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SECURE AND VERIFIED SHARING OF RESOURCES IN A PEER-TO-PEER NETWORK ENVIRONMENT

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system and method for secure and verified sharing of resources in a peer-to-peer network environment to facilitate efficient use of bandwidth are disclosed. The method for securely sharing resources over a peer-to-peer network generally comprises broadcasting a request by a requesting peer for a resource over the peer-to-peer network where the resource is identified with a resource version identifier, receiving a response
10 from a responding peer on the peer-to-peer network indicating that the responding peer has the requested resource, retrieving the requested resource from the responding peer, and verifying the retrieved resource by ensuring the retrieved resource contains the version identifier embedded therein. Preferably, the verifying also includes verifying a digital signature, such as a 1024-bit VeriSign digital certificate, of the retrieved resource
15 to ensure integrity of the retrieved resource.